

MAIL SUPPLEMENT. The Hongkong Telegraph.

21 MAR 33
SUPREME COURT OF
HONG KONG

No. 357.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT
ISSUED GRATIS TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1883.

OUR FORTNIGHTLY SUMMARY.

The past fortnight has been a stirring one in the Colony both as regards matters of business and affairs of pleasure and amusement.

Shipping interests have been well looked after, and trade generally has been fairly satisfactory. During the fortnight several of our local companies have held meetings, particulars of which will be found detailed in another column. A very satisfactory report was presented by the General Managers of the Hongkong and China Bakery on the 6th instant, and the future prospects held out were certainly most encouraging. The Dock Company's half yearly statement was hardly up to the average; however, good reasons for the falling off in the returns were given, and a more satisfactory report will no doubt be forthcoming when the shareholders next meet. At the meeting of the Union Insurance Society of Canton on the 17th, the special resolution altering the Articles of Association to enable the directors to subdivide the shares was unanimously confirmed. On the same date the China Sugar Refining Company agreed to increase its capital to the extent of \$90,000 by issuing at par 3000 new shares, at \$30 each.

The Legislative Council had a meeting on March 7th. The principal business was the introduction of two bills by the Attorney General, one to empower the Government to retain the opium farm in its own hands, and the other to enable the authorities to restrict the introduction of opium into the colony in less quantities than one chest, in order that a certain amount of supervision be kept over the importation of the drug to prevent the defrauding of the revenue by taking opium over to the mainland, boiling it there, and bringing it back in small quantities.

The Annual Meeting of the members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce was held in the City Hall on the 17th inst. The attendance was a very meagre one, and the proceedings, which are reported elsewhere, were not of surpassing interest.

In the way of amusements the Choral Society gave a creditable rendering of Barnet's cantata, "The Ancient Mariner," in the St. Andrew's Hall on the 7th, and Professor Hasselmayer, the celebrated illusionist, has been performing to capital houses in the Theatre Royal. The sergents of "The Buffs" gave a grand ball at the North Barracks on the night of the 16th, which proved a great success. H.E. General Sargent, C.B., Colonel Hobson and many other notabilities were present.

An interesting match at the American national pastime, baseball, was played at the Cricket Ground on the 9th instant, between the U.S. Navy and the H.K.C.C. After a most exciting contest the Club won by 2 runs. A cricket match on St. Patrick's Day between teams representing Ireland and "The World" respectively, resulted in favor of the sons of the Emerald Isle by 76 runs on the first innings. The Hongkong Amateur Athletic Sports were held on the 12th, and produced some splendid racing. The management and general arrangements at this meeting were a credit to all concerned.

We regret to have to chronicle another shipwreck on our coast, resulting in loss of life. It was only the other day we announced the total loss of the U.S.S. *Ashuelot* with a portion of her crew between here and Amoy, and now we have to place on record the wreck of the China Merchants' Co.'s steamer *Mu*, and the loss of the chief officer and seven of the crew. The *Mu* ran aground at the entrance to the Hui River during a heavy gale on February 26th, and according to latest intelligence has completely broken up.

It must be a matter for much regret to the supporters and admirers of the Hon. E. BULKELEY JOHNSON, chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and unofficial member of the Legislative Council, that so much energy and ability should be associated with qualities, the exercise of which prevents the honourable gentleman from doing justice to himself or to the local interests of which we honestly believe he is such a stanch advocate. Mr. JOHNSON's inconsistencies are as puzzling as his want of tact and discretion is painfully conspicuous. It has for a very considerable time past been our duty to adversely critique the public acts of this gentleman in his various representative capacities, but more especially in connection with the extraordinary and totally incomprehensible attitude assumed on every possible occasion by the resident chief of "the princely house" towards Sir JOHN POK HENNESSY. It is needless to recapitulate the history of Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON's determined opposition to our late Governor, as the whole of the startling incidents connected therewith must still be fresh in the minds of our readers; and we merely allude to what were probably more than political differences, because the latest public utterances of the official members of Council plainly show that the hatchet has not yet been buried. Perhaps it is desired we should understand that the old system of the local government machine being entirely in the hands of the heads of the various departments, with the officer administering the Government more or less, was the chief fault. Mr. JOHN HENNESSY was based on independent official

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1883.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

descended to insult the intelligence of Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON by bespattering him with slavish flattery for so-called public services of an extremely doubtful character, we have invariably credited the honourable gentleman with possessing good intentions, and abilities which, if more judiciously applied, might work wonders in the cause of much needed local reform. Our views on these matters have been greatly strengthened by Mr. JOHNSON's observations in introducing to the members the annual report of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce at the meeting held in the City Hall on the 14th instant. The speech made by the Chairman was, like all Mr. JOHNSON's public orations, exceedingly clever and practical in many respects, but full of glaring inconsistencies, and especially noteworthy for its tendency to give undue prominence to that bitter feeling of animosity to Governor HENNESSY which has disfigured the speaker's political career in this Colony. Any politician who makes public rights in any sense subservient to personal interests or private animosities can scarcely hope to inspire confidence in his constituents, and if Mr. JOHNSON has not done this, he has to thank his own impulsive utterances and writings for forming public opinion on the matter. Sir JOHN POK HENNESSY's rule in Hongkong doubtless had many crying defects; but every body knows—Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON included—that, both before and after his departure from our shores, His Excellency was subjected to misrepresentations and a general course of unscrupulous defamation of a most scandalous description. The true causes which led to an official and unofficial combination against the Governor are an open secret in the Colony; and it is equally well-known that all the nonsense which has been talked and written by vindictive partisans, misguided enthusiasts, and unscrupulous hirelings about what Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON designates "an administration of mischievous incapacity to stay the progress of necessary public works, to postpone measures of sanitation and education, and deprive us of an adequate supply of water during its full term of office" is simply rhetorical fustian, absolutely without foundation or meaning—in fact something very like what Disraeli would have termed the ravings of an excited rhetorician inebriated with the exuberance of his own verbiage. But had it been otherwise, and all of these trumped up charges against Governor HENNESSY been based on truth, Mr. JOHNSON's covert attack on His Excellency yesterday would still have been imprudent and ill-judged. No person should know better than an experienced business man like the honourable member that an injudicious advocate frequently works more harm than a violent adversary. As a well-known French author puts it—"On fail souvent lors d'la vrité par la manière dont on se sert pour la défendre." Unlike most public men the administrative defects of the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce are in the heart not in the head, and as Bulwer forcibly expressed it, the heart is the most credulous of all fanatics, and its ruling passion the most enduring of all superstitions.

Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON went rather out of his way in addressing the few members of the Chamber of Commerce who thought it worth while to listen to his tedious oratory, to pay a fulsome compliment to "the able men who are now administering the affairs of the Colony, and who are doing their best to make up the lee way of the past five years." Who are "the able men" who are now administering the affairs of the Colony? Is it a question that must naturally arise in the mind of any thinking person. We were under the impression—and we feel assured that the Earl of Derby entertains the same idea—that Mr. W. H. MARSH, was the man at present administering the Government of Hongkong. Doubtless Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON knows best, but surely if His Excellency the Administrator had abdicated or taken the extraordinary step of pleading guilty to incapacity by calling in the aid of the honourable member's "able men" to assist him in his administration, the press would have received some information on the subject! And we have heard nothing. What then could the usually well-posted unofficial member have meant? Is it really true after all that Mr. MARSH is the Administrator only in name, and that our modern Machiavelli—"the honourable" the Surveyor-General" is *in re* facto Governor of Hongkong? Leaving Mr. MARSH, whose administrative abilities have long since been tested and found wanting, out of the question, Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON's "able men" must of necessity be the various heads of departments—the "departmental clerks of the Colonial Office" of whom the honourable member spoke with such lofty scorn. Who are these able gentlemen who have managed for so many years past to hide their transcendent abilities from the public gaze with such unqualified success? Dr. STUART is "Acting Colonial Secretary," Mr. ROUSSELL is "Colonial Treasurer" and Mr. J. M. PARCEY is "the honourable Mr. Surveyor-General;" but as these gentlemen held the same appointments during the "administration of mischievous incapacity" referred to so unceasingly by the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, that worthy personage's allusions to the "able men" who are now administering the government become so vague as to border closely on the incomprehensible. It is very probable, nay, it is positively certain that there are circumstances in connection with the government of this Colony which call for especial vigilance. It is the duty of every Chamber to pay strict attention to all public matters which concern the interests of the trade which that Chamber represents, but because we think that in this Colony there are circumstances which call for especial vigilance, forgetting that in all cases and under all circumstances *publicum bonum privatum est prius*. The only blot in the report now under review are the references to Governor HENNESSY's Nottingham speech, and to a "ridiculous error" that appeared in the *Call Mail Register* of July 28th. In the first case an ample apology for the Chairman's letter to Mr. MARSH ought to have been made, and in the second such a palpable matter was beneath the notice of any knight-errant representative body.

Although we have never liked the *governor* of our local contemporaries, con-

tinued to insult the intelligence of Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON by bespattering him with slavish flattery for so-called public services of an extremely doubtful character, we have invariably credited the honourable gentleman with possessing good intentions, and abilities which, if more judiciously applied, might work wonders in the cause of much needed local reform. Our views on these matters have been greatly strengthened by Mr. JOHNSON's observations in introducing to the members the annual report of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce at the meeting held in the City Hall on the 14th instant. The speech made by the Chairman was, like all Mr. JOHNSON's public orations, exceedingly clever and practical in many respects, but full of glaring inconsistencies, and especially noteworthy for its tendency to give undue prominence to that bitter

feeling of animosity to Governor HENNESSY which has disfigured the speaker's political career in this Colony. The true causes which led to an official and unofficial combination against the Governor are an open secret in the Colony; and it is equally well-known that all the nonsense which has been talked and written by vindictive partisans, misguided enthusiasts, and unscrupulous hirelings about what Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON designates "an administration of mischievous incapacity to stay the progress of necessary public works, to postpone measures of sanitation and education, and deprive us of an adequate supply of water during its full term of office" is simply rhetorical fustian, absolutely without foundation or meaning—in fact something very like what Disraeli would have termed the ravings of an excited rhetorician inebriated with the exuberance of his own verbiage. But had it been otherwise, and all of these trumped up charges against Governor HENNESSY been based on truth, Mr. JOHNSON's covert attack on His Excellency yesterday would still have been imprudent and ill-judged. No person should know better than an experienced business man like the honourable member that an injudicious advocate frequently works more harm than a violent adversary. As a well-known French author puts it—"On fail souvent lors d'la vrité par la manière dont on se sert pour la défendre." Unlike most public men the administrative defects of the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce are in the heart not in the head, and as Bulwer forcibly expressed it, the heart is the most credulous of all fanatics, and its ruling passion the most enduring of all superstitions.

No flattery. Sir; an honest man can't live by it.

It is a little animal which knows

If the best flattery in his nature, out with it.

Or send it to a court, for there 'will thrive.'

The very able report of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, presented at the annual meeting of members the other day, deals fairly enough with the various mercantile questions which have been brought under the notice of the committee during the past year. The desirability of having such important local and general interests, as those supposed to be under the especial care of the Chamber of Commerce, represented in London cannot be questioned; a better representative than Mr. JAMES MCANDREW of Messrs. MATHESON & CO. on the board of the British and Colonial Union could not possibly have been selected. The views of the committee on the treaties with Korea, addressed to the Secretary of State at Washington and to Lord GRANVILLE, are sound on sound principles, and will no doubt meet with universal approval in our commercial circles. The action taken in regard to the proposed abolition of the

marine sorters on board the English mail steamers must command itself to the community at large, who will probably share in the committee's regret that the Messageries Maritimes still decline to concede to the Colony some privileges we enjoy from the Peninsular and Oriental Company. Considering the importance of the opium trade to local interests, the Chamber of Commerce may fairly claim to be heard by Her Majesty's Government in the event of the proposed diplomatic arrangements in any way affecting this port or interfering with its trade. The bankruptcy laws of the Colony are allowed to be in a most disgraceful condition and it is therefore satisfactory to know that what is undoubtedly an important factor in all trading communities has not been lost sight of by the committee. The course adopted by the Chamber with regard to the Wa-Hop Telegraph Co.'s application for permission to lay a cable across the harbour from Hongkong to Chinese Kowloon, and also the remonstrance addressed to the local government last September on the subject of the unequal incidence of the quarantine regulations merit approbation, although it is a subject for regret that the recommendations of the committee produced such indifferent results. The claim made for a modification or rather the total abolition of the present tariff for light dues, a taxation on trade as the report puts it, appears to us to be scarcely justified by actual facts, and will, we imagine, be rejected by the government; however, we will deal with this matter at another time.

That the members of the Chamber of Commerce took but a lukewarm interest in the committee's action "out of the record of the ordinary business of the Chamber" was plainly evidenced by the thin attendance at the meeting. With only five members present, outside the officials, to confirm the unprecedented policy of the committee in interfering in matters beyond the scope of the Chamber's *raison d'être*, as set down in a most elaborate and carefully compiled report, we think the executive have little reason to congratulate themselves either on the results of, or the amount of general appreciation displayed in their arduous labors. It must have been especially galling to the Hon. F. BULKELEY JOHNSON to find that the important public acts of what he claims to be the only representative body in this Colony, endorsed by only five persons out of a numerous constituency, Mr. JOHNSON's notorious letter to Mr. MACKIAC, M.P., Chairman of the London Chamber of Commerce, impugning the veracity of Governor HENNESSY's statements on smuggling in his celebrated Nottingham address, and otherwise vilifying and abusing His Excellency is publicly supported in Hongkong by only five gentlemen, three of whom are foreigners, one an avowed enemy of Sir JOHN POK HENNESSY, and the other a retainer of "the princely house." A greater satire on the honourable gentleman's so-called representative body than these simple facts could not possibly be produced.

Space will not at present permit us to deal with the political pretensions of the Chamber of Commerce as set forth in the report and in the speech of the Chairman, but we hope to be able at an early date to give this important subject due consideration.

When it was hursquely proposed to Caesar by ENOBARBUS that the differences between CÆsar and ANTONIUS should be settled by the former giving his sister in marriage to CLOPÆTÆ's lover, the great Roman is said to have remarked that he "disliked not the match so much as the manner of the wedding." It is exactly the same with ourselves and a great many others in regard to the last report of the Chamber of Commerce. A great deal of what has been done we heartily endorse; but we are quite unable to agree with the manner in which things generally have been managed. Unless we greatly err, the hand of Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON is plainly discernible throughout the report; the ideas and opinions expressed therein are *in re* facto the ideas and opinions of Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON. The influence or power of the honourable gentleman is predominant, and it is only a matter for regret that he has used his opportunities with so little wisdom, forgettng that in all cases and under all circumstances *publicum bonum privatum est prius*. The only blot in the report now under review are the references to Governor HENNESSY's Nottingham speech, and to a "ridiculous error" that appeared in the *Call Mail Register* of July 28th. In the first case an ample apology for the Chairman's letter to Mr. MARSH ought to have been made, and in the second such a palpable matter was beneath the notice of any knight-errant representative body.

his manner of claiming this distinction is, to say the least, misleading. The Chamber is undoubtedly a representative body; but who does it represent? Surely Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON did not intend to claim that the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce represented in any shape or form the interests and opinions of the community at large! The Chamber of Commerce merely represents a class; whether that class can be fairly described, as was recently done by an influential London newspaper, as a dominant caste, is really a matter of very slight importance, as it cannot be denied that at least ninety-five per cent. of the community have no interest in or sympathy with this admittedly useful organisation. We challenge Mr. BULKELEY JOHNSON or any of his adherents to refute this statement. There is no object to be gained by either under-rating the services of an institution of the character of the Chamber of Commerce, or under-estimating the local interests represented by its executive and members; but the idea of any semi-private association which at its annual meeting can only muster an attendance of a dozen members, including seven officials, arrogating to itself through its Chairman, the right to speak in the name of the community as a representative body, not merely on affairs commercial but in all other matters appertaining to the Colony, is too preposterous, too much like the renowned "tailors of Tooley Street" to be allowed to pass unchallenged. The Chamber of Commerce, as we have already said, is an excellent institution of its kind; it was established for a certain purpose, namely

to promote the interests of its members, and we presume, of the commercial community generally, so far as these have reference to trade and merchandise; and so long as it confines itself to its legitimate sphere of action we consider it deserving of public support. The most prominent means by which the aims of a society of this character are sought to be achieved are usually:—By representing and urging on the legislature the views of the members on all mercantile affairs; by aiding in the preparation of legislative measures having reference to trade, such, for instance, as the Bankruptcy Ordinances; by collecting statistics bearing upon the staple trade of the colony, &c.; by acting under certain circumstances as a court of arbitration in mercantile questions; and by attaining by combination, advantages in trade which might be beyond the reach of individual enterprise. The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has gone far beyond all this, and we consider the Chairman's explanation or defence for interference in outside matters as unsatisfactory as the action of the Chamber, presuming that Mr. JOHNSON's *caeciliæ* are approved by the members, has been injudicious and ill-advised.

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The Committee find that for the efficient working of the Fire Brigade it was absolutely necessary to engage these extra men for this additional Engine, and therefore recommend that the vote be approved.

Read.—The Minute of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, dated the 10th December, 1882, authorizing the engagement at once of the above staff for the Engine in question, which had then recently been received from Home.

The Committee find that for the efficient working of the Fire Brigade it was absolutely necessary to engage these extra men for this additional Engine, and therefore recommend that the vote be approved.

Read.—The Minute of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, dated the 27th January last, relative to the Staff for the Floating Fire Engine.

Mr. CLEGG, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, is present by special invitation, and gives explanations relative to the item of \$288 for the 3 Hosenmen applied for in his letter No. 3 of the 2nd January last.

The Committee regret that by an oversight, His Excellency's Minute was not before them on the 1st ultimo, when the expenditure in connection with this Engine was under their consideration.

Under the circumstances the Committee do not feel disposed to recommend this expenditure at present.

EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS

FINANCE

The following minutes of the Finance Committee were then read—

EXCESS OF THE ESTIMATES FOR 1883.

FIRE BRIGADE.

Read.—Letter No. 20, from the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, dated the 29th January last, recommending a petition from the widow of Police Constable No. 444, Li Aho, for a compassionate allowance.

The Committee find that the deceased died at the expiration of 163 years' service in the Police Force just as he contemplated retiring on pension.

The Committee also find that the deceased's pay for the last 3 years preceding his death was at the rate of \$60 per annum, by which he would have been entitled to an annual pension of \$33.60.

The Committee therefore recommend that the sum of \$33.60 be given one year's pension, be voted to the widow.

Read.—A letter from Mr. D. R. CALDWELL, dated the 6th August, 1882, and the various Minutes thereon, together with the previous correspondence and Minutes, relative to his claim for damages sustained by him by the pulling down of the wall of a house by order of the Surveyor General's Department, which fell upon a house belonging to his late father's

The *Japan Mail* gives some further particulars of the accident which occurred on board H.M.S. *Daring*, near Yokohama on the 23rd ulto. As we stated some time ago the accident happened during the quarter gun practice. A sixty-four pounder gun (muzzle-loading, Woolwich pattern) burst, the breech coil coming clean away and killing two men—the captain of the gun and the breech-tackle number—as it flew across the ship. Four others of the detachment were also injured, but not seriously. Had the gun been trained astern at the time, the casualties would doubtless have been very much greater. It is stated that this gun had been in use for two years, and during that time had fired the regulation number of rounds—eight per quarter—with showing any symptoms of weakness. The *Daring* will come to Hongkong for the purpose of holding an official inquiry into the circumstances of this accident.

We understand that a serious accident to one of our local steamers, which might have proved a sequel to the *Fighting's* explosion of a few months back, was averted last week. The passengers by the early morning boat to Kowloon were alarmed by a sudden escape of steam from the engine room; the launch stopped and a rush was made for the surrounding sampans. The cause of the alarm was really the proof of safety as the engineer had evidently let the water get too low in the boiler, but the boat having recently undergone government inspection, Mr. Brewer had insisted on a fusible safety plug being fitted, and this came into operation and extinguished the fire when danger arose. As we have already stated on several occasions, no amount of supervision by the government can guarantee the public against wilful carelessness, but we are glad that our Government Marine Surveyor has given such practical proof of his knowledge of the class of men who have charge of steam launches that repetitions of the *Fighting* disaster are rendered almost impossible.

A CORRESPONDENT points out that the interesting lecture (7) on "The Superstitions and Customs of the Chinese" delivered by Mr. P. H. Emanuel to the Portsea Jewish Literary and Debating Society, alluded to and detailed in our leading article in Saturday's *Telegraph*, is taken word for word from Dr. Denny's "Folk-lore of China." Our correspondent is quite correct. We fancied there was something familiar in Mr. Emanuel's so-called "personal experiences" and therefore took the trouble to hunt up Dr. Denny's well-known book, where we fully expected the source of the ex-reporter's inspiration, at once became apparent. Mr. Emanuel must surely have obtained his peculiar method of dealing with the original ideas and labors of other men, that is, palming them off as his own, from his connection as reporter with our mauldin morning contemporary. However, the great mistake this latest authority on China and the Chinese made was in sending his "hash" to the *London and China Express*. We really cannot understand how an acute character like "Phineas" could have acted so much like a No. 1 donkey.

WE (*Japan Mail*), learn that Mr. von Mollen-dorff and seven Korean officials have been staying at the *Hôtel des Colonies* in Shanghai for the past fortnight. The object of the "Korean Crown Adviser" as Mr. Mollen-dorff is called, in visiting Shanghai was to confer with Li Hung Chang's Secretary, Taotai Ma Tsung Cheng, who came there to meet him, as it was impossible to arrange an interview at Tientsin owing to the lateness of the season. It would appear, therefore, that the conjectures of the Shanghai journals as to Ma Tsung Cheng's business in that settlement were altogether erroneous. He did not come for the purpose of proceeding to Tientsin, but merely to have an interview with his chief's "home affairs." Tong King Sing, of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, and Mr. Von Mollen-dorff, both arrived by the same steamer from Korea. We understand that the object of this interview was to contrive some means for rendering edible the Korean *ragout aux impossibles*, which under existing circumstances threatens to become quite indigestible. Although the Shufeldt Treaty has been ratified at Washington, it is feared that some difficulties will crop up hereafter, as the new Convention between China and Korea converts the latter not merely into a Chinese prefecture but, according to some people's opinion, into a private estate of His Excellency Li Hung Chang.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER "MELI."

We learn that the China Merchants' steamer *Meli* went aground near Hué at the entrance of the river on the afternoon of the 26th ultimo, during a heavy gale. On account of the high sea and strong wind the lighters were unable to go alongside and take out the cargo. The steamer *Pooh-chi* has been sent from Haiphong to render assistance. After the *Meli* went aground a boat was sent ashore in charge of the second mate and head comrador. The boat capsized but the second mate and crew managed to reach the shore, and the comrador was picked up next morning by a fishing boat which found him lying insensible on the bank. Three other boats were manned and despatched for the shore the afternoon the vessel grounded, but only one of them got safely ashore, the others being broken to pieces by the heavy sea. The boats which were lost were manned by the chief mate, three assistant comradors and four Ningpo scullers whose fate has not yet been ascertained. The after part of the steamer could be seen from the shore and was breaking up and being carried away by the heavy seas.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by our correspondents in this column.

THE SLAVE TRADE IN CHINA AND HONGKONG.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph." Sir,—I shall be much obliged by your granting me space in your esteemed columns for the publication of the following letter on the "Slave Trade." *In extenso*. It is a subject which I feel it a duty to bring out fully before the world; for the longer silence reigns the more disgraceful and dangerous does our position become.

Your weekly contemporary (*The Star in the East*), issued on the 26th ulto, refers in its leading articles, in covered language, to a certain "detestable traffic" which the late Sir John Smale spoke boldly of when holding office at Hongkong, and the words which proceeded from his lips in the speech he delivered previous to pronouncing sentence on Su Ah-fook, a kidnapper, speak volumes which would hear, repeating it was by the *Colonial Empire* in a certain extent so far back as on the 16th December 1879.

The late Chief Justice of Hongkong on the occasion referred to, used the most careful language in his speech, and it was evident from what he did say that he knew much more than he reckoned, or considered necessary, at the time he spoke, and the fact of his covering up such a thing as this, is an excuse for the writer of the leading article to, who says: "At present it is too often the fact, that the generosity of Mr. Hanbury, the Community, and the Trustees, is abused by the vicious mothers of the people, who merely allow their slaves to obtain the benefit of an elementary education that their market value may be enhanced." What

ever private individuals may care to do, a public body like the Municipal Council ought never to be allowed to spend a single cent with the contingency of its being wasted in fostering the detestable traffic to which this statement points!" The writer has put it pretty clearly, but it appears that one should not merely hint at the corrupt practices; a bold dash and straight hit should be made at this debased traffic.

Things have come to such a pass now that we must not mince matters; the truth must come out. It is not enough to make respectable men shudder when they read in a newspaper a positive statement, made by a British legislator in a British colony, to the effect that perhaps 10,000 slaves are living under the English flag—the flag of freedom! (7) Yet the emotion is not great; few indeed were even surprised at this revelation of the truth. But there are some, fortunately, who are a little surprised at such a statement, for they are not aware that the slave trade is carried on, and abetted by British subjects in all parts of China to a large extent, and when I say British subjects, I mean the majority of Foreigners in China, for it will be found that these are the predominating settlers here.

Young girls are bought and sold constantly by foreigners, or what is tantamount to it, by their Chinese mistresses, and Hongkong is the Central Market (God forbid I should use the term) for girls of the servant and prostitute classes! Hongkong and Shanghai are the hot-beds of this vice, this disgrace, this dastardly outrage on our boasted civilisation. Some of our readers will doubtless be appalled to hear that young girls are in some cases reared under the roofs of their foreign male parents, simply and solely either to be outraged by themselves or to be sold by their mistresses to the man who bids the highest for them. This scandalous state of things was doubtless well known to the honorable gentleman who spoke with so much ease on the 18th October, 1879.

The late Sir John Smale commenced a work which it would be an everlasting disgrace to the British nation to allow to become a thing of the past. To-day there is as much need of decisive action as in 1879, in fact more so, and it is to be hoped that steps will be taken both in Hongkong and Shanghai towards the abolition of what I am forced to term the *Slave Trade*.

As subjects of a country which has endeavoured to stamp out slavery from the face of the earth, as subjects of the nominally most moral nation in the world, in a word, as loyal British subjects, who will charge us with carrying

on the *Slave Trade* in China much less in a British Colony? with showing a most immoral and degraded example to this large (and naturally degraded) empire of China? with doing anything that is not entirely within the boasted decency of the English Legislator? Ah! a fellow subject, facts stare us in the face as irreducible accusers on all these charges. But

remembering the truth of the old adage *Labor omnia vincit* we may feel assured that with persistent action against the traffic, it may, through somewhat firmly rooted, be dislodged from its stronghold, and another victory for freedom be scored by the British.

It is to be hoped that the gauntlet of virtue taken up so nobly by the late Chief Justice of Hongkong will not be thrown down by his successors, and that they will not shrink from the contest for the right.

The evil I speak of must sooner or later be grappled with a firm hand, and there is more likelihood of a brilliant victory if bold steps are taken now, than would be the case a few years hence.

I could go more fully into the subject, Mr. Editor, but will not for the present ask for further space; suffice it to say that even should Mr. Hanbury's conscience smite him when he reads this letter, I cannot help it.

I am, Sir,
Yours obediently,
A BRITISH SUBJECT.
Shanghai, 9th March, 1883.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph." Sir,—Mr. Johnson yesterday, at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, referred to an opinion expressed by an influential London newspaper to the effect that the Chamber represents a dominant class. I will go a little further than the London paper and say that the Chamber by no means represents a certain clique of the community.

The subscription fee, as Mr. Johnson observed, is moderate enough, but that, as the honourable gentleman knows quite well, has very little to do with the fact of the Chamber having so few outsiders (this term includes the majority of the merchants of the colony) will not identify themselves with the Chamber of Commerce is simply because they know that if they became members they would have to blindly follow the lead of this dominant clique or be "sat upon."

By the "dominant clique" I mean of course, the well known gentlemen who are in possession of such extraordinary, such overwhelming ability, penetration and tact, that, in addition to their own business, they find it an easy task to direct a bank, three or four opposition insurance societies, and half a dozen other companies of a different nature. These gentlemen and their faithful followers constitute this clique, which takes upon itself to speak in the name of the mercantile community of Hongkong, and who know him who dares to raise his voice against any decision of the all powerful fraternity. The meetings of shareholders in any of the Hongkong companies are admitted on all hands to be feeble to a degree, and this is so merely because the clique has such a hold that it is almost useless to fight against it. If by chance an attempt is made simply to obtain information, a kind of half bullying, half "injured innocence" mode of expression is adopted—something like what happened at the last meeting of the Ice Company.

Things will have to change a very great deal and a different policy will have to be followed before the Chamber of Commerce can claim to really represent the commercial community of Hongkong.

Your faithfully,

CABIRO.

Hongkong, March 15th, 1883.

THE PIGSTY NUISANCE.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

Sir,—I should feel obliged if you would publicly call attention to a grievance which the residents in this locality have to endure and the existence of which is little short of a disgrace to our boasted sanitary regulations.

Above Ship Street and behind the old cemetery, which is adjacent to the Italian Convent, there are from forty to fifty pigsties which are a nuisance nuisance to the neighbourhood. The stench, constantly emanating from the accumulations of filth in this locality is simply abominable.

Some time ago I called the attention of the Inspector of Nuisances to this disgraceful state of affairs, and was told that "nothing could be done, and that the pigsties

should be removed from the hill side." Now Sir, small pox is raging in this neighbourhood, and yet no steps are taken to remove a nuisance which common sense tells us must be a fruitful source of disease.

What is the Surveyor-General, or whoever is entrusted with the important duty of looking after the sanitary condition of Hongkong about? He is certainly not studying the health of the community, nor is he doing much to be regretted and may be held by some as an excuse for the writer of the leading article to, who says: "At present it is too often the fact, that the generosity of Mr. Hanbury, the Community, and the Trustees, is abused by the vicious mothers of the people, who merely allow their slaves to obtain the benefit of an elementary education that their market value may be enhanced." What

I wonder that Father Vigano who lives quite close to this hotbed of disease has not protested in forcible language to H.E. the Administrator, against these pigsties being allowed to exist whilst that dreadful scourge small pox is raging in our midst.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.,
A WANCHAI RESIDENT.
Hongkong, 8th March, 1883.

THE HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

"THE ANCIENT MARINER."

The members of the Hongkong Choral Society made their first, and we presume their only appearance during the present season at the St. Andrew's Hall, City Hall, on the 7th instant in Darvill's well known cantata, "The Ancient Mariner." There was a large attendance, nearly the whole of the seats being occupied.

For several years past the Choral Society

has especially devoted its attention to the production of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operas, and in this somewhat peculiar line for an association of this character has achieved a good deal of success. Commencing with "Trial by Jury" at the old Lusitano Theatre some five years ago, "H.M.S. Pinafore," "The Sorcerer," and "The Pirates of Penzance" have since been produced with satisfactory results.

At the commencement of the present session it was determined by the executive of the association to abandon *opera bouffe* and return to the legitimate work of a Choral Society. "The Ancient Mariner" was accordingly selected and put in rehearsal, the conductor's baton being entrusted to M. Piron.

Of course, difficulties cropped up at times during the practices, and on more than one occasion it was feared that the project of giving a public performance of "The Ancient Mariner" would have to be abandoned; however, the committee, and particularly the energetic honorary secretary, Mr. R. G. Alford, worked so hard to bring the affair to a satisfactory issue, and received such valuable assistance from M. Piron, that the prophecies of failure indulged in by certain inspired gossip-mongers were quickly dispelled. A preliminary performance of the cantata was given on Monday night, which was so generally meritorious that a successful appearance before a critical public was confidently expected.

It is hardly necessary for us to say that "The Ancient Mariner" is Coleridge's poem of that name—a weird story well known to require explanation. Barnett's music is essentially suited to Coleridge's grimorous rhymes. Without denying the musical merits of the composition, we think that had the committee of the Choral Society searched the entire vocabulary of English music, it would have been impossible to have found a more sombre and unattractive *mezzo* than John Barnett's "The Ancient Mariner." However, the selection was made, and it was for the members of the Society to atoms for the general unattractive character of the music, by their own artistic efforts, and in our opinion they succeeded in this to a very considerable extent.

It would be manifestly unfair to criticise last night's performance from a too elevated stand point. The cantata, it was admitted, had not been sufficiently rehearsed, and there were difficulties with the soloists which could not possibly be overcome.

The string band of "The Buffs" were rather slow of practice and scarcely so efficient as they might have been. However, as a whole the representation was a very creditable one to all concerned, but especially to M. Piron, whose task was certainly not a light one. The whole of the choruses were admirably sung, the voices blending well together, and time being carefully observed.

Of the soloists the young lady who sang the soprano music is fairly entitled to commendation.

It was an arduous undertaking for such a young and inexperienced vocalist, even allowing that the music was transposed to suit her voice, and the success which attended her efforts speaks highly for Miss Grimble's natural abilities. There were doubtless many faults in the *debutante's* style, but as time and study will endear her most crying defects, we prefer offering words of encouragement rather than acting the part of a hyper-critic. Miss Grimble's rendering of the chafing air "But tell me, tell me speak again," was one of the gems of the performance, and deservedly elicited warm applause. Madame Vaucher, although not in her best voice and occasionally slightly flat, sang the contralto music with considerable effect.

Dr. Von Der Horck is far and away the best amateur tenor we have heard in Hongkong. The weather, although rather chilly, was favorable for athletics, the ground was in first rate order, the attendance of spectators unusually large, the field for the various events sufficiently numerous and the finishes close enough to keep up the excitement, whilst the management and arrangements generally were everything that could be desired, and a vast improvement on those of previous meetings.

The Band of "The Buffs" enlivened proceedings by performing a carefully selected programme during the afternoon. Among the other notabilities in the enclosure we observed H.E. the Administrator, Admiral Willes, General Sargent, C.B., Admiral Meyer, the French Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Clift of the American Navy, Commodore Von Blanck, Commander of the German squadron, and Commodore Cuming. In the Grand Stand a large number of our best known residents, including many ladies, were present, and appeared to evince a great deal of interest in the various events.

Proceedings commenced, as usual, with the broad jump, in which Jarrett of "The Buffs," penalized 6 inches for winning last year, again proved successful by clearing 19 ft. 8 in., in good style. Wilson Lee making a very good show with 19 ft. 4 in. In the shot-putting competition only three competitors put in an attempt; Jackson eventually beating Cameron with 8 inches, the winning "put" being at 31 ft. 9 inches.

A flat race handicap, 200 yards, for boys under 15, Open to European schools. Post Entries 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes presented by Mr. A. Coxon.

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terest was displayed as to the result of the rubber, although it was generally conceded that the World was but indifferently represented. Travers and Rice were the first pair of batsmen, Van Buren and Shepherd leading off the attack. Travers opened his shoulders to the first ball sent down by the underhand bowler, scoring a brace, and despatched the second delivery for three, his colleague making a single off the last ball of the over. Shepherd's third ball Travers drove for three, and served the first ball of Van Buren's second over in similar fashion. With twelve runs from two overs the underhands were rather too expensive, and Tomkins superseded the base-ball "crack." Still runs came freely and the telegraph board showed 29 when the new bowler rattled down the last hander's stumps, and with the addition of only four runs both Travers and Hodder were sent back by the same hand. Travers' 20 was composed of five threes, a two and singles. Hynes and C. S. Coxon made a good stand, the younger player especially batting in capital form. Hynes was bowled by D'Aeth with the score at 52, McMunn taking the vacant wicket, but failed to stay and his successor, Wolsey, was only credited with three runs when Shepherd succeeded in getting one past his bat. Holliday hit hard during his short stay, Coxon meanwhile knocking the bowling with perfect impartiality all over the field. Hedley's old fashioned lobs were tried in a last resource after the fast bowlers had got considerably demoralised, and the change proved a most effective one, as Holliday was smartly "c. and b." in the "Stumper's" first over, and both Lloyd and Coxon also fell victims to the slows—clean bowled. The innings closed for the very respectable total, considering the state of the ground, of 135 runs, which included 3 extras. Coxon's 48 was made up of nine threes, five twos and singles—one of the best innings this promising batsman has yet played in Hongkong. Hedley's bowling average showed up well with 3 wickets for 14 runs, Tomkins accounting for the same number of victims in an outlay of 17 runs. D'Aeth had two for 31 and Shepherd one for 53.

D'Aeth and Hedley commenced business for "The World," Rice and Travers opening the bowling. Cautious play was the order of the day at first, and it soon became apparent that both underhands were dead "on the spot." In Rice's second over D'Aeth sent the third ball to the boundary for three, "Hedley" immediately afterwards driving Travers for a quartet. With the score at 23, Hedley sent one from Rice into the hands of McMunn at mid off, having put 13 together in his usual slashing style. With the addition of another run, Hynes who had taken the ball from Travers, drove Stuart on to his wicket, and Rice immediately afterwards bowled Grove, both the last named players having failed to score. Shepherd was the next to come and go, as after D'Aeth had punished Hynes' third over to the tune of 14 runs—two fours and a six—he fell a victim to a combination of Rice and Travers, and retired without troubling the scorers. Four for 53. When Hunter-Blair joined D'Aeth, Travers resumed bowling at his old end, and with such effect that the innings was finished in double quick time. With three consecutive balls Hunter-Blair, Farquhar and Tomkins were disposed of, the score then standing at 52 for 8 wickets. Gordon was unluckily run out, and Rice accounted for D'Aeth and Van Buren in consecutive overs, the innings closing for 50 runs. Rice took 5 wickets for 16 runs, Travers 3 for 22, and Hynes one for 15.

Being in a minority of 76, a follow-on was necessary when a much better display of batting was exhibited. At gun fire the World had in their second essay totalled 85 for the loss of 7 wickets, Hedley 29, Gordon 22, and D'Aeth 12, heading the list. Hynes was most successful with the ball accounting for five wickets at an outlay of 16 runs, thus rivalling Rice's fine performance in the first innings. The match thus ended in favor of the Irish by 76 runs on the first innings.

We append full scores—

IRLAND.	
Mr. H. G. Rice, b Tomkins	9
Mr. A. K. Travers, b Tomkins	20
Mr. R. C. Hodder, c Grove, b Tomkins	1
Mr. C. S. Coxon, b Hynes	12
Mr. G. S. Grove, b Hynes	18
Mr. J. McMunn, R.N., b D'Aeth	6
Mr. W. O. Wolsey, b Shepherd	3
Mr. W. C. Hunter-Blair, R.A.	10
Lient. Stuart, b H. H. Harper	10
Rev. H. H. Harper, run out	1
Mr. A. Gordon, not out	1
Extras	8
	135

THE WORLD.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Lient. H. S. Hedley, R.E., c	13	b Hynes	20
Mr. C. S. Coxon, b Hynes	12	b Hynes	12
Mr. C. U. Stuart, his wicket, b	1	b Hynes	5
Mr. W. H. Grove, R.N., b Rice	5	not out	1
Mr. A. Shepherd, c Travers, Rice	1	b Hynes	1
Mr. W. C. Hunter-Blair, R.A.	10	c Travers, b Rice	0
Cap. C. Gordon, "Buffs," run out	1	b Hynes	22
Mr. H. G. Rice, b Tomkins	1	not out	1
Mr. A. K. Travers, b Hynes	1	run out	5
Mr. R. C. Hodder, b Travers	1	run out	5
Mr. H. H. Harper, not out	1	Extras	5
	59		86

BASE BALL.

U. S. NAVY v. HONGKONG C. C.

The postponed match at the American national pastime between teams from the U.S.S. *Richmond* and *Monocacy* and the Hongkong Cricket Club respectively, was played on the Cricket Ground on the 9th instant in the presence of a large number of spectators. The Club mustered a very strong team, and although a few of them were comparative novices at base ball, their capital condition and recent cricket practice rendered them a formidable lot to tackle. The Americans were of course better acquainted with the intricacies of the game, and taken all round considerably the better players, but their lack of condition pegged them back a few holes, and fairly placed them on equal terms with their inexperienced opponents. At the commencement the Club played up in good style, obtaining a slight advantage, which was materially increased as the game proceeded notwithstanding the strenuous exertions of their opponents. The ubiquitous Hynes handled the "broomstick" like a Boston player of the first water, and displayed a turn of speed between the bases which should give him a great chance in the Veteran's Race at the Athletic Sports this afternoon, unless they weight him too heavily. Hodder also showed effective hitting powers, and was well backed up by his colleagues. Nearing the finish the game became most exciting, the Americans playing up grandly at last, and eventually losing by only 2 runs. The match was contested throughout in a most spirited fashion, and appeared to be watched with great interest by the spectators. Considering the closeness of the finish, and the general success of the first base ball match of the season, we trust the powers that be will manage to arrange a return game to take place on an early date. We must not omit to note that the capital band of the U.S. flag ship *Richmond* was present during the afternoon, and played a judiciously arranged pro-

gramme with much acceptance. Appended are the full scores and the positions of the players—

H. K. C. C.	R. O.	R. O.
Hynes 6. S. 4	2 Carroll C. 1	4
Hodder 3 B. 3	2 Hunt P. 3	3
Mills 2 B. 2	4 Field C. F. 2	2
Rice C. F. 2	4 Weeks F. 0	4
Coxon B. 2	2 Ballantine S. S. 2	4
Hedley C. 1	4 Williamson R. F. 0	5
Van Buren P. 1	4 George B. 3	1
Foss R. F. 1	3 Pickrell B. 4	1
	13 Crawford S. B. 1	3
	16 27	

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

H. K. C. C. - 6 0 5 1 3 0 2 0 1 = 18

U. S. NAVY - 0 3 1 2 0 0 3 6 = 16

A TRIP TO NORTH BORNEO.

(By OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

We left Hongkong in the good ship *Fokien*, Captain Abbott, on February 17th, after a very pleasant passage arrived off Sandakan on Thursday the 22nd. There was nothing eventful, transpired during the voyage, but we had a fine time on board the ship, Captain Abbott being one of the jolliest skippers I ever sailed with, and this is not damning with faint praise as my experiences on the salt sea wave have been of a somewhat varied character, and extend over a greater number of years than I care to count. However, the most interesting part of my special mission for the leading Hongkong journal commenced when the *Fokien* steamed round the beautiful island of Balmalla, and brought us in full view of the prosperous town of Elopura. The splendid scenery on all sides immediately attracted my attention, forming as it did such a marked contrast to Hongkong viewed from the Green Island entrance to the harbour. Approaching the town the *Fokien* fired her main gun, and in a very short time was safely moored alongside the wharf, a short distance from another steamer, which was the *Royalist*. De Lissa and Harrison, planter, who represents the Chinese Land Farming Co. lately formed at Shanghai, had taken up ten thousand acres for tobacco planting. These lots, and also the forty thousand acres selected by Mr. Major's company, will be practically taken in hand without loss of time. On the east coast, in Darvel Bay in the Sileno district, which is said to be the finest part of Borneo, Mr. Harrison has taken up behalf of his company, seven thousand acres for tobacco planting. These lots, and also the forty thousand acres selected by Mr. Major's company, will be practically taken in hand without loss of time. On the same river, Mr. Harrison, a well known planter, who represents the Chinese Land Farming Co. lately formed at Shanghai, had taken up ten thousand acres for tobacco planting. These lots, and also the forty thousand acres selected by Mr. Major's company, will be practically taken in hand without loss of time. On the same river, Mr. Harrison, a well known planter, who represents the Chinese Land Farming Co. lately formed at Shanghai, had taken up ten thousand acres for tobacco planting. These lots, and also the forty thousand acres selected by Mr. Major's company, will be practically taken in hand without loss of time.

On Friday last it was reported at the "Anchorage" that a junk, laden with salt, lay water-logged and abandoned out at the "White Dogs." One of the Chinese gun-boats went out immediately to her assistance, and towed the vessel into Pagoda Harbour on Sunday morning.

On Saturday morning last a mafao, belonging to the Ewo Stable, whilst exercising a griffin, was thrown, and sustained a bad fracture of the thigh. Dr. Rennie was quickly on the spot, and attended to the unfortunate sufferer who, we understand, is progressing favourably under medical treatment.

An accident resulting in the loss of seven lives,

occurred on the river, opposite the Ice House on Saturday afternoon last the 21st instant. About three o'clock in the afternoon the steam launch *Tai Wan* ran into a Chinese passenger boat which was completing its passage from Pagoda Anchorage. The latter sank almost directly after the collision.

We learn from Pagoda that the schooner *Spartan* went out recently with a view to communicating diving operations upon the steamship *Odin*. Receiving news, however, of the loss of the *Astrolab*, the *Spartan* proceeded to the wreck of the latter vessel. We understand that when the *Astrolab* was wrecked she had about \$18,000 on board, which was intended for disbursements as wages to her own, and two other U.S. naval vessels' crews.

In a recent article, we expatiated upon the subject of tonnage dues being required upon the ordinary cargo boats plying between Foochow and Pagoda Anchorage. We are now pleased to find that a distinction has been drawn, by the Peking authorities, between cargo boats and lighters, which absolves owners of the former from such taxation. The term "cargo boat" is now defined as a vessel used in conveying merchandise between Treaty ports, and not lighters used for the purpose of loading or unloading ships within the port itself. This is undoubtedly the proper construction to be put upon the Treaty, the framers of which evidently never intended it to extend to the above named class of boats.

The port of Quan Tao has ever held the relative position to Foochow as a kind of Bazaar,

and according to the natives it is a place to be avoided.

Having seen all I could see and obtained all the information available, I returned to the steamer, and we left Sandakan Harbour at 4 p.m. on the 24th, bound for Kudat, with Sir Walter Medhurst, Mr. Dent, Mr. Hillier, Mr. Bamfield and Mr. Richards on board. Just prior to our leaving, H.E. the Governor and the officers came on board to bid us good-bye, and gave us three cheers as we got under way, to which we heartily responded. We arrived at Kudat the following day at noon, where the weather was glorious. Our short stay prevented me from getting much information concerning this new port, which only sprang into life four months ago. From what I saw, however, it gives promise of turning out in a fine place. Houses are rapidly springing up on every side, the Chinese element of course predominating in the business portions of the town, where the shops kept by the Celestials are already doing a prosperous trade. A well known sign-board "A Sing, Tailor from Hongkong," attracted my attention, and the smiling "pliz" of Mr. A. Sing himself quickly drew my eye, to give me the courteous greeting due to an old friend, for A Sing and I have been on good terms since the last Chinese war, and unless his generally excellent memory is at fault there is still a little bill outstanding to cement our friendship; however, that is quite a personal matter. My tailor friend is a very sensible fellow with some very practical notions about him, and he speaks in terms of unmeasured praise about the prospects of his new home. After a tour round the shops, where I met numbers of shopkeepers and traders from Hongkong, all of whom were quite satisfied with their positions, I took a general survey of the settlement.

Roads are being cut in all directions, and works of various kinds are in full swing as far as the eye can reach on every side. The place presents a busy and bustling appearance, betokening energetic management, which speaks well for its future prosperity. A new wooden wharf has been almost completed under the superintendence of another old acquaintance, Mr. J. Sampson, late of the Hongkong Surveyor General's Department and well known as a "crack" carpenter at Victoria. Regatta for several years past. This wharf, a very substantial erection apparently, will be doubtless found of great general utility. Another wharf, 150 feet in length, has been designed to run along in front of the busiest portion of the town, and will be taken in hand without delay. A new market place will also be built.

I paid flying visits to most of the Government establishments in Elopura, such as the Court House, Gaol, Treasury, Resident's Office, & Government House is a neatly constructed edifice, situated on a small hill which commands a splendid view of the entire bay. A little way from the Governor's residence is the Resident House, a general store and hotel combined, and I believe, conducted under government auspices and supervision. On leaving the "Resi" I made tracks for the *Fokien's* wharf, passing through the Chinese quarters in route where I met several other Hongkong acquaintances, who had emigrated from Fragrant Streams to the new *El Dorado* at various times during the past nine months. They all expressed themselves highly pleased with the new country, and so far as I could see, appeared to be doing well.

A good deal of commercial competition already exists, with the result that the value of land has greatly increased of late. Nearly the whole of the lots with water frontage have already been disposed of. Owing to the surveys not having been completed, the sale of town lots have been temporarily suspended.

The population of Elopura and vicinity now exceeds 5,000 Chinese and Sulus, and is rapidly on the increase. The health of the town is beyond question, in proof of which it may be stated that only three deaths from natural causes occurred throughout the last six months—a lower percentage compared with the population than any town in the world could show. The situation of the town is admirable for all sanitary purposes, and as there is fresh water in abundance, I feel sure that Elopura will retain its present good name as one of the healthiest spots in the East.

Among other industries I noticed a steam saw-mill in full swing. A local steamship company, to be called the North Borneo Steamship Company, has also I understand, been formed by Mr. A. Dent, Mr. De Lissa, Mr. Cowie, and other capitalists. This company is intended for local trade in Borneo, and as far as I could gather from inquiries at persons likely to be well informed, promises to be a great success.

The next morning I walked out to the Beatrice Estate, which is under the management of Mr. Wickham. This gentleman has lately imported a large head of cattle for the estate, and now supplies the inhabitants of Elopura daily, with fresh beef.

Formerly they were dependent on supplies from Singapore. I must not omit to state that fish of different kinds and of excellent quality can always be procured in abundance. Returning from my visit to Mr. Wickham, we took the small hill on which the Gaol is situated, and following a newly cut pathway came to a very pretty place, which for lack of a better name, is known as Gunpowder Magazine Valley, owing to a couple of small powder magazines having been erected in the valley. Tomkins as to the state of our harbour, the same as ever. It is to be hoped that Captain

Foster highly pleased with my enjoyable ramble, and did ample justice to Captain Abbott's excellent cuisine.

After my morning meal I again wended my way on shore bent on collecting all the news possible, as our stay was only to be a short one, and as I wished to earn the handsome retaining fee, which is always forthcoming for valuable special correspondence. It is rather a pity I had so little time at my disposal, as I particularly desired to give you a graphic account of what was going on in the interior, from personal observation. However, that was out of the question, so I had to fall back on "interviewing" reliable authorities. I was credibly informed that nearly two hundred thousand acres of land have already been taken up in various districts, and surveying is still going on as fast as possible. On the Sapugaya River, Messrs. De Lissa and Sachse have brought their selections under operation. The former has offered free grants of land under very favorable conditions to immigrants, which no doubt will be largely taken advantage of. On the same river, Mr. Harrison, a well known planter, who represents the Chinese Land Farming Co. lately formed at Shanghai, has taken up ten thousand acres for tobacco planting. These lots, and also the forty thousand acres selected by Mr. Major's company, will be practically taken in hand without loss of time.

On the same river, Mr. Harrison, a well known planter, who represents the Chinese Land Farming Co. lately formed at Shanghai, has taken up ten thousand acres for tobacco planting. These lots, and also the forty thousand acres selected by Mr. Major's company, will be practically taken in hand without loss of time.

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On the same river, Mr. Harrison, a well known

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 357.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1883.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

EXTRACT FROM
"CHAMBERS' JOURNAL"
26TH AUGUST, 1882.

A N Exhibit at the Exhibition of "Means and Appliances for the protection of Human Life" which appeared to have the merit of novelty as well as efficiency, was that consisting of LIFE SAVING GARMENTS. Most Dresses of this kind are of a cumbersome and unsightly description, such Garments in fact as no one would from choice carry about with him. But here we saw GREAT COATS, LADIES' JACKETS, &c., cut in the latest Fashion too, so Skillfully Furnished in the Linings with little Cylinders of Cork, that their presence was quite undetected until pointed out.

People in the Habit of Yachting or who are engaged in an occupation which brings them into daily chance of falling into the water would do well to make further enquiry relative to this useful adaptation of the life-belt principle.

The Manufacturers are Messrs. WENTWORTH & CO., of 12, Museum Street, London, W.C.

SOLE AGENTS IN HONGKONG,
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
who have a large assortment of these LIFE
SAVING GARMENTS FOR SALE.
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1883. [296]

Insurances.

THE Undersigned have been appointed
AGENTS to the NEW YORK BOARD
OF UNDERWRITERS.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881.

RECORD of AMERICAN and FOREIGN
SHIPPING
Agents.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881. [457]

NOTICE.

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

(CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED.....\$1,000,000.)

The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on Goods,
&c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [106]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY,
(LIMITED).

CAPITAL TAELS 600,000, EQUAL \$833,333-33.
RESERVE FUND.....\$70,858-27.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq. LEE YAT LAU, Esq.
LO YEOU MOON, Esq. CHU CHIK NUNG, Esq.

MANAGER.—HO AMEI.

MARINE RISKS on GOODS, &c., taken at
CURRENT RATES to all parts of the world.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1882. [601]

VANGTSZE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION.

CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up).....Tls. 420,000.00
PERMANENT RESERVE.....Tls. 230,000.00
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.....Tls. 290,553-95

TOTAL CAPITAL and
ACCUMULATIONS, 8th.....Tls. 940,553-95
May, 1882.....

DIRECTOR.
H. De C. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.
J. H. PINCKVOSS, Esq. W. MEYERINK, Esq.
A. J. M. INVERARITY, Esq. G. H. WHEELER, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI
Messrs. RUSSELL & CO., Secretaries.

LONDON BRANCH.

Messrs. BARING BROTHERS & CO.,
Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent
68 and 69, Cornhill, E.C.

POLICIES granted on MARINE Risks to all
parts of the world.

Subject to a charge of 12 per cent for Interest
on Shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the
UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are annually dis-
tributed among all Contributors of Business (whether
Shareholders or not) in proportion to the
premium paid by them.

RUSSELL & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1883. [183]

Intimations.

INTIMATION.

SIGNOR ANTONIO CATTANEO, of the
CONSERVATOIRE DE BERGAMO, and late
of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA COMPANY has
the honor to inform the community that he has
arranged to remain in Hongkong, and will give
lessons in Music, Singing and the Pianoforte.

CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.
Address—Messrs. KELLY & WALSH,
Queen's Road.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1883. [168]

INTIMATION.

SIGNOR GIUSEPPE PENATI, certificated
Professor of Music of the REGGIO CON-
SERVATORIO DI MILANO, and Resident in
Hongkong for over 7 years, gives lessons in
Music, Harmony and Singing.

SIGNOR PENATI is open for engagements as
Pianist at Private Dancing Parties.

CHARGES STRICTLY MODERATE.
Address—No. 6, PEEL STREET,
Hongkong, 7th March, 1883. [188]

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

WE have authorised Mr. FRIEDRICH
HEINRICH HOHNKE to sign our
Firm from this date.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1883. [201]

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of MR.
HENRY LISTON DALRYMPLE and
Mr. JOHN GORDON TALBOT HASSELL in
Our Firm has Ceased and it is Closed in Hong-
kong from This Date, Mr. DALRYMPLE being
Authorised to Sign "In Liquidation in
Hongkong."

BIRLEY & CO.

1st March, 1883.

M. R. KENNETH DOUGLAS ADAMS and
Mr. JAMES LYON PLAYFAIR SANDERSON
are This Day admitted PARTNERS
in Our Firms at Canton and Foochow.

BIRLEY & CO.

1st March, 1883.

M. R. HENRY LISTON DALRYMPLE
Acts as Correspondent of Messrs. BIRLEY
& CO. here, and has commenced Business under
the style of.

BIRLEY, DALRYMPLE & CO.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1883. [169]

To be Let.

TO LET.

NO. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET,
No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
lately occupied by PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

NO. 9, SEYMOUR TERRACE.

NO. 25A, PRAYA CENTRAL.

NO. 10, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

Apply to

DAVID SASOON, SONS & CO.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1883. [7]

TO LET.

THE UPPER FLOOR of No. 8, QUEEN'S
ROAD CENTRAL, suitable for DWELLING
or OFFICES.—Rent \$55.

ALSO:

OFFICE ON QUEEN'S ROAD.

Apply to

J. G. SMITH & CO.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1883. [217]

For Sale.

KELLY & WALSH
THE HONGKONG
NAUTICAL POCKET BOOK.

CONTAINING

CANTON TIDE TABLES,
PEAK and INTERNATIONAL CODE
SIGNALS.

LIST of LIGHTS, BUOYS and BEACONS ON THE
COAST of CHINA, ETC., ETC.

FOR

1883.

FIRST YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

CONTENTS.

CALENDAR.

TITLE.

CONTENTS.

EXPLANATION OF SIGNALS.

PREFACE.

A TWO STOREY HOUSE (6 ROOMS)

in Mosque Junction. The above has Gas
and Water laid on; and immediate possession
can be had.

For Particulars apply to

D. NOWROOZEE,

Hongkong Hotel.

Hongkong, 27th November, 1882. [18]

For Sale.

W. B. BREWER.

Intimations.

W. B. BREWER.
HAS JUST RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING
NEW AND IMPORTANT BOOKS.

Scoboh's Siberia in Asia.

Ledger's The Sun and its Planets.

Prof. Seeley's Natural Religion.

Froude's Short Studies, 4th vol.

Wilson's Chapters on Evolution.

Crane's Art and Taste.

Ruff's Guide to the Turf.

Colyer's Pumps and Pumping Machinery.

Half Hours with the Stars.

Tuckerman's English Prose and Fiction.

Bills of Exchange Act, 1882.

MacLeod's Lectures on Banking.

Gilbert's Banking.

New Music!

New Fancy Goods!

JUVENILE BOOKS IN GREAT VARIETY.

PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS FOR CABINETS ONLY.

W. BREWER,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1883. [793]

SAYLE & CO.'S SHOWROOMS.

SAYLE & CO.

ARE SHOWING.

WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING OUR STOCK TO MAKE ROOM FOR NEW GOODS
WE ARE OFFERING FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.

FANCY CHECKED DRESS MATERIALS.....@ 15C. PER YARD USUAL PRICE 25C.

INVISIBLE CHECKED Do.....@ 15C. do. do. 25C.

POMPADOUR DELAINES Do.....@ 20C. do. do. 65C.

ROUGH & READY SERGES Do.....@ 20C. do. do. 30C.

CHECKED MOHAIRS Do.....@ 30C. do. do. 45C.

TERRA COTTA & OTHER STRIPED SATINETTES.....@ 50C. do. do. 75C.

FANCY VELVETEENS.....@ 35C. do. do. 50C.

ALSO

LADIES SHOES.....@ 1.25 PER PAIR do. \$2.50.

LADIES SHOES.....@ \$1.50 do. do. \$2.50.

LADIES SHOES.....@ \$1.75 do. do. \$2.50.

N.B.—JUST OPENED A CASE OF ATKINSON'S SCENTS.

A LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

SAYLE & CO.,
VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 6th February, 1883. [659]

NOVELTY STORE.

SELLING OFF CHEAP.

NO SUCH OPPORTUNITY EVER OFFERED BEFORE.

FOR ONE MONTH ONLY from This Date, all the BOOKS in this "STORE" including

those which may arrive during the month, will be disposed of at Published Prices, Charging

Extra, only the actual expenses incurred, such as freight, insurance, &c., at current rate of
exchange.

To avoid confusion, all the BOOKS selected shall not be delivered but forwarded together
with a Memo of cost which if not approved

Intimations.

IMPORTANT INTIMATION.

NOW READY.



(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST. A DIRECTORY FOR CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE PHILIPPINES, FOR THE YEAR 1883.

PRICE TWO DOLLARS.

The above work published at the Office of this Paper, contains a Directory for the Ports in the large portion of Asia comprised between Penang, in the Straits Settlements, and the Northern Chinese Ports, including Vladivostock, Formosa; the Treaty Ports of China and Japan; the Philippine Islands; the British Colony of Hongkong; and the Portuguese Colony of Macao. The work will also contain the Principal Treaties between European countries and the United States and the countries East of the Straits, including the New Treaties between

RUSSIA AND CHINA,
BRAZIL AND CHINA,
AND

THE KOREAN TREATY; together with conditions of Trade, and the Port, Customs, Consular, and Harbour Regulations for the Ports of China and Japan; and a description of the Ports, with the latest Trade Statistics taken from the Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs and other reliable sources.

The various Governments and Municipal Corporations have been applied to for information, and all Public Bodies and Companies, Bankers, Merchants, Consuls, and Professional and other Residents, have supplied the necessary matter to ensure correctness, upon forms sent for that purpose. The Naval and Military portion has been taken from the latest official lists and revised at Head-quarters; in fact no pains has been spared to make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a handy and perfectly reliable book of reference for all classes.

In addition to the information enumerated above, "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1883 contains a complete

INDEX TO THE ORDINANCES OF HONGKONG;

A SPECIAL LIST OF FOREIGNERS employed in Steamers making short voyages from Hongkong;

THE PRIVATE RESIDENCES of the Principal Government Officials, the Leading Merchants, the Foreign Consuls, Professional Men, Justices of the Peace, &c.

A LADIES DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG, AND

A Mass of interesting information on various subjects, culled from the most trustworthy sources.

A SPECIAL FEATURE IN THIS PUBLICATION IS A CHAPTER ON SPORT, dealing with almost every branch of sport including RACING, CRICKET, ATHLETICS, AQUATICS, &c., &c., &c.

The WINNERS of all IMPORTANT RACES at HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, FOOCHOW, and AMOY, with times, and other interesting particulars, carefully compiled from the most reliable sources make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST," a *vade mecum* for all classes of sportsmen.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" for 1883 is Printed on a superior quality of Paper with a NEW FOUNT OF TYPE, specially ordered for the work, from THE PATENT TYPE FOUNDING COMPANY, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London, and bound in a fashion unsurpassed by any work of the kind ever published in the FAR EAST.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" will, in order that it may circulate extensively outside this Colony, be published at a POPULAR PRICE, and can be ordered at this Office for

TWO DOLLARS.

There is not space in the compass of an Ordinary Advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published, either in Hongkong, or any other part of the East, at the Price.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" offers Special Advantages as an Advertising Medium. It will have an extensive circulation in all Ports between Singapore and Newchwang, and the scale of charges has been fixed at an exceptionally low rate. Terms can be learned on application.

Suggestions for the improvement of this work are respectfully solicited.

Orders for COPIES, and for ADVERTISEMENTS may be sent to the Agents at the various Ports, or to

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH OFFICE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 22nd January, 1883.

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.

FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES,
PERFUMERS,
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS
OF
MANILA CIGARS,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
AND
MANUFACTURERS
OR

AERATED WATER.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.THE SHANGHAI PHARMACY,
24, NANKIN ROAD, SHANGHAI.BOTICAS INGLESA,
14, ESCOLTA, MANILA.

THE CANTON DISPENSARY, CANTON.

THE DISPENSARY, FOOCHOW.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, *Hongkong Telegraph*" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writers, not necessary for publication; but as evidence of good faith.

Whilst the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph* will always be open for the fair discussion of correspondents of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in this day's issue not later than THREE O'CLOCK so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Arrangements have been made to publish *The Hongkong Telegraph* daily at 4 P.M. Subscribers in the central districts who do not receive their copies before FIVE O'CLOCK will oblige us by once communicating with the Manager.

The Hongkong Telegraph
HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1883.

This system of employing our European constables solely on night duties doubtless has much to recommend it; but it would appear from a letter published in another column, pointing out and complaining of certain disgraceful proceedings on the part of foreign beachcombers, that it also has its disadvantages. It may be accepted as a fact that the indecent behaviour of these pests to good order, referred to by our correspondent, could not possibly have occurred had European policemen been on duty near the places mentioned, and this raises the question whether some improvement on the present police arrangements could not be devised to the advantage not only of the public but also of the police department.

Our correspondent, who we may state, without any breach of faith, is a gentleman of position and an old resident in Hongkong, complains of the annoying importunities of unemployed foreign sailors in the public streets, and distinctly charges a certain set of these scoundrels with an offence of such a disgusting character, that it is incumbent on the authorities to take steps without delay to thoroughly sift the matter.

It seems that four of these rascally loafers have been in the habit of hanging round the gate of the Italian Convent in Caine Road at certain hours of the day, ostensibly for begging purposes—but actually for lie in wait for the young girls who live there. It is alleged that these scoundrels, besides using filthy language, indecently exposed themselves, and in one instance actually laid hands on one of the girls. The same performance was carried on near the Roman Catholic Cathedral last Sunday morning—presumably by the same ruffians.

The serious character of our correspondent's charges can scarcely be over-rated, and matters in the Colony have come to a pretty pass when our sisters and our daughters cannot walk in the public streets in open daylight without encountering such scandalous indecencies, besides running the risk of being both grossly insulted and assaulted.

Of course these blackguards select their opportunity when women are unprotected, knowing that there is very little chance of any young girls venturing to face what could not fail to prove disagreeable publicity.

We have simply done our duty in directing the attention of the authorities to what is undoubtedly a well-grounded grievance. It is their duty to find a remedy.

WHEN the matter is viewed calmly from a common sense standpoint, the tremendous influence throughout the Russian Empire of that extraordinary political and social doctrine which is known as Nihilism, affords no room for wonder. From all authentic accounts relating to the internal government of Russia, the wretchedness of the people has, even in these advanced days, scarcely a parallel in history. The paternal rule of the Czar is practically an iron-shod tyranny which grinds the people relentlessly to the dust, leaving them no alternative but slavery or conspiracy. And they have made their selection, and Nihilism and dynamite are potent factors throughout the vast dominions of the Czar and form one of the greatest political problems of the age.

The Government of Russia, so far as its own subjects are concerned, is worthy to be classed with the most backward of heathen nations. The celebrated Socialist leader, Prince Krapotkin, at present undergoing imprisonment in France for his connection with the recent political disturbances of Lyons, has written an article on the Russian prison system, and his revelations are of such a nature as to intensify the indignation against the barbarity practiced by a Government which is a disgrace to the civilization of Europe. The results of the Liberal movement of 1877-62 have been almost nullified. By that reform trial by jury was introduced, and the punishment by the knout and the branding-iron was abolished. Subsequent modifications almost paralyzed the judicial reform, and, in thirty-nine provinces out of seventy-two the system prior to 1864

still exists. True reports of political trials are never published, and while formerly the journals were bound to print "cooked" reports, the Government now keeps the matter a profound secret. All cases which might produce a disturbance of minds or disturb the public peace are now tried *in camera*. To prevent the speeches of the accused, or of such facts as might compromise the Government transpiring, nobody is admitted to the Court, not even members of the Ministry of Justice—"only the wife or the husband of the accused (always in custody also), or the father, mother or one of the children, but no more than one relative for each person accused." At the last trial of terrorists, when ten people were condemned to death, the mother of Sukhakov was the one person who enjoyed this privilege. Many cases are dispatched in such a way that nobody knows when the trials take place. In 1861, a general inquiry was made into the state of the prisons, and the report showed that they were the worst in the world, and that the officials were worse than the malefactors imprisoned. Various improvements were suggested, but nothing has been done, and although the Ministry of Justice each year calls for \$3,000,000 for necessary repairs, it is put off with less than one-half of that amount. The result is that the prisons and stations are pestilential and entirely unfit for habitation. The great variety of punishments inflicted under Russia's Penal Code may be divided into four categories. The first is that of hard labor, with the loss of all civil rights. The convict's property passes to his heirs. He is dead in law, and his wife can marry another; he may be flogged with rods, or with the *plat* (cat-o'-nine-tails) *ad libitum* by each drunken gaoler. After having been forced to hard labor in the Siberian mines or factories, he is settled for life somewhere in the country. The second category is that of compulsory colonization, accompanied by a complete or partial loss of civil rights; and is equivalent to Siberia for life. Under the third category are dealt with all convicts condemned to compulsory labor in the *arrestantskiy roty*, without loss of civil rights. The fourth—omitting much of less importance—is of banishment to Siberia without trial, and by order of the Executive for an undetermined period—that is, mostly for life. The so-called central prisons have been recently introduced, which Prince Krapotkin pronounces as so many practical hells. In Kharkoff central prison, where political convicts are kept, "not only the cells are darker and damper than elsewhere, and the food is worse than common (the allowance being 5 farthings a day), but, in addition, the prisoners are carefully maintained in absolute idleness. No books are allowed, and, of course, no writing materials; and no implements for manual labor. No means of easing the tortured mind, nor anything on which to concentrate the morbid activity of the brain, and, in proportion as the body droops and sickens, the spirit becomes wilder and more desperate. Shut up in the fortresses and houses of detention first of all, and afterward in the central prisons, they go rapidly to decay, and either go calmly to the grave or become lunatics. Insanity steals upon the poor prisoners gradually and slowly, and the mind rots in the body from hour to hour. In July, 1878, the life

of the prisoners at the Kharkoff prison had

become so insupportable that six of them resolved to starve themselves to death. For a whole week they refused to eat, and when the Governor-General ordered them to be fed by injection such scenes ensued as obliged the prison authorities to abandon the idea. To seduce them back to life officialism made them certain promises, as, for instance, to allow them walking exercise, and to take the sick out of irons. None of these promises were kept, and for five long years the survivors were left to the mercy of such a jailor as has been described.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

RETURN of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ending March 18th, 1883—European 190 and Chinese 2,036, total 2,226.

A LODGE of Emergency of United Service, No. 1341, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Saturday evening next at 7.30 for 8 o'clock precisely.

LEUNG PING TAI, a butcher, charged with exposing unwholesome pork for sale this morning in the Saipingpoon market; admitted having the pork which the Colonial Surgeon pronounced diseased, and was fined \$50 with the option of a month's hard labor. The butcher retired to languish in Hayward's Hotel.

In rummaging through the shop of a second-hand bookseller in London a customer came across some literary rubbish, in rare binding. "Where do you expect to get customers for these?" he asked contemptuously. "Oh, I beg your pardon," said the bookseller, "we frequently have orders from country gentlemen for so many yards of *folio* and so many yards of *quarto*, to fit up their libraries, and they pay as well as anything."

CHAN AYAU, a seaman, remanded from the 17th instant on a charge of stealing a box of clothing worth \$5 on January 3rd, was again before Mr. Wodehouse this morning. In April of last year, Chan Ayau was served out with six months' hard labor for larceny from a dwelling house by Mr. Wodehouse, and the same reward was again tendered him this morning. It is to be hoped that the half-year's spell of work and confinement will teach him to leave off his weakness for grabbing the property of others.

THE provisions of the Married Women's Property Act do not appear to be very clearly understood. A woman who signs herself "One in Distress" writes to the *Globe* as follows:—"Can I prosecute my husband for leaving me from Friday till Tuesday without giving any account of himself? Can I keep his clothes if he tells me he intends to go again? Can he take the children away if he does go again?" If all husbands who stayed away for a few days, without giving an account of themselves were prosecuted we fear the police-courts would have plenty of work on hand. The woman can certainly keep his clothes if she likes, and has the power. Men are, however, apt to get angry if they cannot find their garments.

A DUNEDIN divine wrote to one of the local papers, the other day, intimating that the presence of its reporters at his church was not required, as "only Christians and such sinners as are worth saving—or at least are capable of being saved—are welcome there." What surprises us about this, comments the *Sydney Bulletin*, is not that reporters are not considered acquisitions to a church congregation, but that they ever go to church at all. Here, they mostly spend their Sundays taking sashay-stains out of their coats, or binding the bottoms of their trousers with hoop-iron. We suspect that the Dunedin cleric objects to them rather because they never have any money for the plate than because they are not good Christians.

THERE is on view in Paris at the present time a bed of rare and singular construction, which has been made to the order of an Indian Prince and is about to be sent to him. The bedstead, which is of satin-wood, with large plates of silver repoussé work, is very beautifully carved, and has cost upwards of \$4,000. The most original part of this bed is the mattress, which has been fitted up as a musical box, so that directly any one lies down it plays a series of tunes selected from Gounod's operas. At the four corners of the bed are four statues, representing young girls of Greek, Spanish, Italian, and French nationality; their only ornament being a gold snake bracelet.

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A PARADE and Inspection of the Government Fire Brigade will take place on Thursday next, the 22nd instant, at 3.30 p.m. at the Central Fire Brigade Station.

We heartily sympathise with our correspondent "Industry," and agree to a very great extent with the ideas he has expressed, but as the matter is a purely personal one there are no just grounds which would justify us in publishing his letter. The "proud Nabobs of Hongkong" are no better and probably not much worse than the same class in other parts of the world; and it is quite a stale truism to say that men who have been pitchforked into positions of wealth and affluence by fortuitous circumstances, from very small beginnings, are almost invariably most inconsiderate towards their own class in adversity. Our correspondent has, surely lived long enough to know that Hongkong is not the only place where

With brains and genius we can well dispense. But want of money is a *capital offence*.

A GLARING instance of the absurdity of the mouldy old Act of King Charles in reference to Sunday trading was, remarks a home paper, afforded at the Thames Police-court the other day. A baker living at Whitechapel was summoned for baking and selling a loaf of bread on Sunday contrary to law. The evidence showed that a rival tradesman had sent a journeyman to the defendant's shop to purchase a loaf of bread, and then took out a summons against him for breaking the law. For the defence, however, it was shown that the bread was baked on the preceding Saturday, and the charge was dismissed. It is surely quite time that the ridiculous law against Sunday trading was either abolished or amended. People have a little more wisdom and a little less superstition in their constitutions than they had when good Charles was King.

CRUSHED AGAIN! Only the other day, says the *Bulletin*, it was found that, at Maryborough (Q.), a fellow named Lowry, who was very holy indeed, had been stealing no end of things from shops. He was "sent up" for a couple of years. And now the pious secretary of the local Hospital, who bears what, under the present circumstances, is singularly inappropriate, the "Monniker" of Albion, and who, in the words of the local editor, "has for a considerable period been a respected and prominent member of several religious and social bodies in this community," has been embezzling money from the poor. How is it that the Evil One won't let alone good and virtuous men—men who wear black-cloth suits and smiles like benedictions, and carry prayer-books and testaments on Sunday? Old Nick is carrying the war into the enemy's camp. There must have been another battle between the fallen angels and the heavenly forces, and the devil has the best of it at this time. We don't see anything about it in the *Howl*. The scoundrels—the men who will all go to Hades because they visit art galleries on Sunday, and want to see more trams run on the *Sawhail*—misdeeds to keep out of gaol. True piety is getting more and more leg-irons on it.

ON Saturday evening last, a large number of our Irish fellow townsmen assembled at St. Patrick's Hall to celebrate the anniversary of the Patron Saint of the Emerald Isle. The walls of the Hall were very tastefully decorated with flags, kindly lent by Commodore Cuming, and festoons of evergreens adorned the ceiling. These devices in green and gold showed conspicuously, and the greeting "Faith, lead while fallen" stood prominently out amongst the surrounding decorations. Over the door was suspended a handsome painting in oils of the good old St. Patrick himself, the painting having been executed and presented to the St. Patrick's Hall by our talented local amateur artist Mr. J. B. Coughtrie. The decorations all round were of a tasteful description. Over two hundred "sons of Ireland" sat down to tea, the tables being well supplied with

THERE is something unspeakably sad, says a home contemporary, in the death of Mr. Arthur Fowles, the marine artist. The poor fellow was the other week sketching, at a village near Fisbun, a yacht which was lying in a creek. He was accompanied by a boy, about seven years of age. In order to get the sketch he borrowed a fisherman's boat, in which a gun had been inadvertently left. The lad picked up the gun, saying, "Look, papa, look!" when the piece immediately went off, blowing his father's brains out. The accident is peculiarly distressing, as the deceased gentleman leaves a wife and large family. There is, however, no excuse in these days of breach-loading weapons for leaving a loaded gun lying about.

WHEN the last mail left England an action, "Burnaby v. Williams," was down for hearing before the High Court of Justice during the present sittings. It arose out of a complaint made to the Commander-in-Chief by Major-Gen. Owen Williams, M.P., lately commanding the Royal Horse Guards, that Colonel Burnaby, now commanding that regiment, had sent for publication to the editor of a weekly newspaper a paragraph of a scurrilous nature reflecting upon him. Colonel Burnaby applied to the authorities for a military investigation, which was refused as being inapplicable to the circumstance of the case, General Williams not being upon full pay, and therefore not amenable to the Horse Guards. Hence Colonel Burnaby's resort to the civil tribunal.

SAYS the *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express* of the 10th inst.—The steamship *Benedict*, when coming in on Sunday afternoon last, unfortunately ran down Pilot Breen, who went out to her to offer his services in the event of a pilot being required. It appears that Pilot Breen sighted the steamer, he sculled out to her, and when about 3 miles outside of the Lighthouse, he got in the track and waited for her, in the expectation that she would slow down; but instead of doing so, she came on at full speed, and in attempting to cross the steamer's bow to get on the lee side, the collision occurred, resulting in the destruction of the boat, the loss of most of the gear, some slight injury to Pilot Breen's leg, and a "ducking" to all hands. Very fortunately, Capt. Smith's pilot boat was within easy distance at the time of the mishap, and they were not long in the water. The steamer turned round, and finding they had been picked up, she steamed on, without taking a pilot. There are, of course, differences of opinion as to which was in the wrong, but we believe the matter has been amicably settled. Pilot Thomas, of Shanghai, was temporarily in command of the steamer, owing to Capt. Harvie being sick.

SAYS the *Hiro News* of the 8th instant—it will doubtless be remembered by our readers that a man arrived in Nagasaki from Shanghai some time ago, and afterwards left that port in an open boat with the intention of making his way to Kobe. The poor fellow, who was evidently of unsound mind, had a cat with him in the boat, but was otherwise entirely alone. In course of time he turned up all safe at Shimonosaki, and it then transpired that he was entirely destitute, and managed to get along upon the hospitality of the Japanese fishermen and sailors he met. The next intelligence that came announced his departure from Shimonosaki—we mentioned the matter at the time—but nothing further was heard of him until yesterday. The man's troubles and voyaging are over. A telegram from Morotai reached the central police station yesterday afternoon, and stated that a boat containing the corpse of a foreigner was washed ashore the same morning somewhere between Ako and Himeji. In all probability the unfortunate man succumbed to have the corpse and the boat brought on to Kobe. In reply to inquiries made by H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, information has been received from Nagasaki respecting the unfortunate man. He was a British subject named Robert Elton, and left Nagasaki in November, under the circumstances we mentioned yesterday. The body is expected here this forenoon, and immediately on its arrival an inquest will be held.

OUR Japanese contemporary the *Hiro News*, in reviewing the "Hongkong Directory" for the present year in its issue of March 8th remarks:—

"In point of attractive appearance the "Hongkong Directory and Hong List for the Far East," recently issued from the office of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, is certainly in advance of other rival publications of a similar description for the current year, which have been produced in this part of the world. Of late years it has become customary with compilations of directories in the East, to supplement the record of names of residents with a variety of information likely to be useful. The volume before us is no exception to the ordinary practice, for we find it contains many of the treaties entered into with either China or Japan by Foreign Powers, the American treaty with Korea, an essay upon typhoons, sporting memoranda, and a quantity of other information. But excellent as this directory undoubtedly is in many respects, we must confess great disappointment that the portion affecting Japan is so wanting in accuracy. As regards Hongkong, Shanghai, and the various Chinese treaty ports the information given is probably correct, but the same certainly cannot be said of the lists of residents in either Yokohama or Kobe. This, however, is very easily accounted for. We happen to know from experience the difficulty of getting the information necessary to make a "hong list" accurate, and also that the publishers of the "Hongkong Directory" sent round circulars enclosing prepaid forms asking for particulars of names, &c. The fair inference is, therefore, that the errors are attributable to carelessness in filling up, properly filled up, the forms supplied. Future issues of this directory will not doubt be free from the cause of complaint to which we have alluded, because so much pains has been taken to produce a really valuable compilation, that a more successful system of procuring information from remote places in Japan will probably be devised by the publishers."

ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO BISHOP BURDON.

The following address, signed by 79 of our leading residents, was presented to Dr. Burdon, Bishop of Victoria, on his arrival by the English mail on the 16th instant:—

Hongkong, March 16th, 1883.
To the Right Rev. Bishop BURDON,
Bishop of Victoria.

Right Reverend Sir.—We the undersigned Clergy and Laity, members of the Church of England residing in Hongkong desire to welcome you on your return, and to express the pleasure we feel at seeing you again amongst us. We trust your visit to England has benefited your health, and that you have met with all the success you could have wished in the good works you have been pursuing whilst away.

Some of us hope that experience gained from present home examples as to the best means of devising an ecclesiastical or synodical organization of Clergy and Laity for the scattered congregations committed by the Church of England to your Episcopal charge—may enable you to confer this great benefit upon them.

Many of us recall with thankfulness and pleasure the profit we have derived in former years from courses of lectures and sermons which you have delivered, and we venture to find out the cause of the terrible fevers that infest most of the villages of the Colony, and which drive so many of our Police, both native and foreign, into the Hospital. May not the shameful neglect of the nuisance department have something to do with it?

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

SANITATION.

To the EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,—Kindly allow me a few lines in the corner of your valuable paper to call the attention of those in power to the deplorable state of the sanitary arrangements in the village of Hungham. An open sewer runs through the middle of the street, into which the drains—I mean those that are not choked up—from the houses and pig styts empty themselves, covering nearly the whole breadth of the street with accumulations of filth, anything but pleasant to the olfactory nerves. In fact, Sir, the village is in such a frightful condition as to be almost impassable in rainy weather. Now that the hot season is approaching it would be a great boon to the regular residents of the place, as well as to officers of ships at the Dock, who occasionally walk there, if some steps were taken to remedy the existing evil.

It has always been, and is still, I believe, a sort of puzzle to our medical authorities to find out the cause of the terrible fevers that infest most of the villages of the Colony, and which drive so many of our Police, both native and foreign, into the Hospital. May not the shameful neglect of the nuisance department have something to do with it?

Yours, &c.,
CLEANLINESS.
Kowloon, 19th March, 1883.

THE PESTS OF THE COLONY.

To the EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,—Be pleased to allow me the use of the columns of your valuable paper, to call the attention of the police authorities, so that measures may immediately be taken to stop a nuisance, which appears to be greatly on the increase. I refer to the foreign sailors out of employment, who are regular loafers, and pests to this colony.

These men not only stop residents on the streets, and solicit alms in an impudent manner; but they have lately taken to grossly insulting the ladies of this colony. I have been informed from a very reliable source, that not less than four of these men frequent the Italian Convent almost daily a tthe hours of 9 a.m., 12 o'clock noon, and 4 p.m., and make a habit of chasing the young girls frequenting the schools and of indecently exposing themselves. In one instance, one of them had the audacity to catch hold of one of the girls in a most indecent fashion.

Seeing that what they have done at the door of the Italian Convent has passed un-checked; they have now turned their attention to the lower levels, the streets leading to the Roman Catholic Cathedral. On Sunday last at about 8 a.m., they were parading the streets, and exhibiting themselves most indecently to any ladies who chanced to come out of the Cathedral without a male escort.

Now Mr. Editor, as such disgraceful and disgusting

proceedings cannot be tolerated, and as these scoundrels are cunning enough to exhibit themselves in this way, only when the ladies are un-accompanied, it would be a very hard task to arrest them in flagrante delicto; feelings of delicacy and the natural modesty of the fair sex preventing them from complaining to the police or appearing against these ruffians at the Magistracy in case of this kind, I would suggest to our worthy Captain Supt. of the Police, that in order to bring these rascals to justice, European detectives should be placed both at the door of the Italian Convent at the hours above mentioned, as well as in the streets close to the Roman Catholic Cathedral, on Sundays from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this letter, and enclosing my card,

I am, your's faithfully,

(Here follow the signatures).

MACAO.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

MACAO, March 19th 1883.

Since last writing events have taken a rapid course in our model settlement. Our gracious Governor is really leaving this "Gem of the orient earth" on the 26th inst., the Government of the colony then devolving upon his illustrious Council. Captain Roza, our new ruler, is expected here about the end of this month. Rumour has it, that the gallant Governor will be accompanied by his own secretary and aide-de-camp.

Bishop Ennes wrote a pastoral, bidding farewell to his flock, before leaving for "home, sweet home." I am not well versed in episcopal matters, but I find that pastoral strangely savouring of the Bishop's well known official spirit of subordination to the Government authorities at Lisbon. Surely, that is not episcopal policy!

The last English mail brought us the ominous news that the salaries of the inferior officers of the National Battalion are to be reduced to some seven dollars per month for ensigns and lieutenants, the soldiers in the ranks to receive the meagre sum of one dollar and forty cents. It is said these were really the wages paid in days of old, when the battalion was not on active duty.

To enforce such regulations on the corps, now on active duty, leads one to think that the home government have either decided upon disbanding the force, or are not *au courant* of what is taking place at Macao, the latter surmise being the more probable.

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The Colonial Secretary versus the *Correio de Macao* scandal is fast becoming a thing of the past. Of course, public opinion is still divided, and the best assurances of the *Macaeiro*, as well as the worst attacks of the *Correio*, are not enough to shake private convictions. After much stirring, the dregs are still visible, as the Treasury has not yet published its exchequer returns of receipts and expenditure. The whole blame for this little business rests on that fact. There are laws and decrees extant which are supposed to enforce the publication of these statistics, but they remain a dead letter with our civilised Government. It is not surprising, under all circumstances, that independent and fearless critics give tongue to what are universal suspicions.

The Chinese emigration bubble is likely to burst soon, not the slightest step having been taken to tempt agents to come over to this place.

A committee has been appointed to study the question and frame suitable regulations.

But where are the ships, supposing that emigrants are to be found? Where is the harbour, granted the willingness on the part of ship owners to send their vessels here? And where is that famous dredger, of which we have heard so much?

The two last issues of the *Independent* contain some very sensible remarks on our Fan-tan and *Yateng* institutions. The Portuguese penal laws are quoted forbidding gambling under severe penalties, and yet here, in a Portuguese colony, gambling of the worst types is the chief source of the public revenue! How long will such disgraceful immorality last?

The *Macaeiro* publishes a protest from our municipality against the pork monopoly. You are, of course, aware that ever the selling of pork is here monopolised, the Treasury drawing a comfortable sum from this ignoble transaction.

The *Correio* has been instituting comparisons between the flourishing state of Hongkong and our degraded colony. Lisbon papers reason in the same strain whenever they write about Macao. Whatever may be said of future prospects of improvement, it is undeniable that we are going down the hill at a rapid pace. Penitentiary is becoming a pure reality with us. Our halcyon days are faded and gone. Will they ever return? Who can tell? The signs of the times are fearfully ominous.

Governor Gray is going to Hongkong for a farewell visit to the baracca. It is pleasant to see an interesting romance is shortly going to the press, anent His Excellency's late diplomatic mission to Japan. On the 27th instant, General Palmer, the military attaché, will be summoned to Hongkong to conduct a hearing, and to consider the various causes of its being promulgated.

—*YAGADA'S Express*.

LAWYERS' FEES.

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SAFETY.

To the EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,—Kindly allow me a few lines in the corner of your valuable paper to call the attention of those in power to the deplorable state of the sanitary arrangements in the village of Hungham. An open sewer runs through the middle of the street, into which the drains—I mean those that are not choked up—from the houses and pig styts empty themselves, covering nearly the whole breadth of the street with accumulations of filth, anything but pleasant to the olfactory nerves. In fact, Sir, the village is in such a frightful condition as to be almost impassable in rainy weather. Now that the hot season is approaching it would be a great boon to the regular residents of the place, as well as to officers of ships at the Dock, who occasionally walk there, if some steps were taken to remedy the existing evil.

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